



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/616,186 Confirmation No. 9679
Applicant : JOHNSTON, Thomas B.
Filed : July 9, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3634
Examiner : STRIMBU, Gregory J.

Docket No. : 20060-0010
Customer No. : 26135

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REMARKS IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicant hereby responds to the Examiner's Office Action of November 17, 2005 in which claims 1-6, 8-13, 15-17, 19-26, 28-34, 37, 38, 40-42, and 44-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 2,820,259 to *Zveibil* in further view of various patents, including U.S. Patent No. 6,230,455 to *Arehart et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,852,903 to *Astrizky*, U.S. Patent No. 4,175,357 to *Goldhaber*, U.S. Patent No. 1,551,753 to *Lane*, U.S. Patent No. 5,267,414 to *Vaida*, U.S. Patent No. 5,566,738 to *Yadidya*, U.S. Patent No. 6,779,830 to *Patberg*, U.S. Patent No. 4,889,040 to *Man*, U.S. Patent No. 5,732,507 to *Edwards*, and U.S. Patent No. 2,592,579 to *Kramer*. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Applicant has submitted a small entity fee of \$510.00 for a three month extension of time. Applicant does not believe that any other fees are due. Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any required additional fees, or credit any overpayments to deposit account number 502725.

Please enter Applicant's response into the record as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.